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Election
Cofor
8-15-02*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KASAI, M.

Group Art Unit: 3643

Serial No. 10/088,228

Examiner: PRICE, R. T.

Filed: 03/19/02

Title: MÉTHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING NATURAL
INTESTINE SAUSAGES

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GROUP 3600

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Submitted: 08/13/02
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

On page 2 of the Action of 07/15/02, restriction to one of Group I and Group II was required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

In reply thereto, applicant hereby elects Group II, claims 4-12 to be examined.

However, applicant respectfully traverses the election requirement by the Examiner.

The Action states that Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept because a pair of wrapping connectors of the transporting means, which is the special technical feature of the invention, is included in Group II but not in Group I.

However, although the transporting means is an essential part of the invention, the wrapping connectors are not and therefor, are claimed in dependent claim 8. The transporting means is included in both Groups I and II. Accordingly, applicant believes that Groups I and II relate to the single general inventive concept.

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In view of the foregoing it is respectfully
requested that the election requirement be withdrawn.
Respectfully submitted,



Yusuke Takeuchi

Reg. No. 30,921

Agent for Applicant

Date: 08/13/02

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